

FOREST SERVICE MANUAL
Custer, South Dakota

FSM 2400 - TIMBER MANAGEMENT

Black Hills Supplement No. 2400-94-1

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Supplements Covered

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Digest: Deletes outdated material.

/s/ Rebecca Aus

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TITLE 2400 - TIMBER MANAGEMENT

CHAPTER 2410 - TIMBER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANNING

Land management prescriptions pertaining to or affecting a timber stand will contain an objective for dead tree management. Wildlife species dependent on dead trees as primary habitat will be identified in the objective.

At least two wildlife habitat trees will be retained per acre in both conifer and hardwood stands. In areas devoid of snags, where dead tree habitat is critical to specific wildlife species, snags will be created. Green trees with spike stops are prime candidates for future "habitat trees".

Habitat trees will be protected during logging, TSI, brush piling, broadcast burns, and other resource activities. Habitat trees susceptible to loss by fuelwood gatherers will be protected by signing. Do not sign trees which have been killed by Mountain Pine Beetles since they stand for a very short time.

Future timber sale contracts will require habitat tree protection. Existing timber sale contracts will be modified to remove clauses requiring snag felling.

To determine existing habitat tree availability, all sample plots taken in Stage II and sale volume cruises will include the following information:

- tree species
- D.B.H.
- dead tree height
- indications of cavity nester use

Definition - Habitat tree

Conifer - a hard snag at least 10" D.B.H. and at least 16' in height.

Hardwood - a snag at least 16' in height, preferable with signs of wildlife use.